(d) Does not arise.

Cotton Yield

1515. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the world average of cotton yield is well over 550 kgs. per hectare whereas in India, it is around 266 kgs. per hectare; and

(b) what action Government are going to take to increase the yield of cotton in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to increase the yield of cotton in the country, the Government of India has recently approved the implementation of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Technology Mission of Cotton. Under the Mission, the existing Intensive Cotton Development Programme has been modified to increase the yield of cotton in the country. Assistance will be provided for the transfer of technology through field demonstration, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstration and training of farmers and extension workers. Besides, assistance is given for the use of critical inputs such as delinted seeds of newer varieties, sprayers, pheromone traps, bioagents, sprinkler/drip irrigation system etc.

Cold Storages in States

†1516. DR. D. MASTHAN:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a scheme to construct cold-storages of 5000 ton capacity in the country;

(b) if so, what is the detailed outline of the scheme;

(c) whether States have been identified for constructing said coldstorages; and

(d) if so, the names of such States alongwith the capacity of these cold storages decided to be set up?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) The Government has approved a scheme for providing capital investment subsidy for construction/expansion/ modernization of cold storages and storages for horticulture produce in the current financial year for implementation during Ninth Plan (1999—2002). The implementation of the scheme is through National Horticulture Board (NHB). Under the scheme, capital subsidy amounting to 25 per cent of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs and 33.33 per cent with maximum limit of Rs. 60.00 lakhs per project in the case of North-Eastern States, is provided.

(c) and (d) States and Union Territories which do not control/ administer rentals on cold storages are covered under this scheme.

Agricultural Institutes for Benefits of Farmers

†1517. DR. D. MASTHAN:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of institutes are engaged in research work for development in agricultural sector in the country;

(b) if so, the names of those institutes which were engaged in research work for agricultural sector as in December, 1999 in the country; and

(c) the total number of scientists, researchers and their assistants in those institutes during above period alongwith other people engaged in administrative work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per Statement-I. *(See* below)

(c) Scientists : 5054
Technicians : 8223
Administrative : 5050

Statement-I

National Institutes

1. Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.